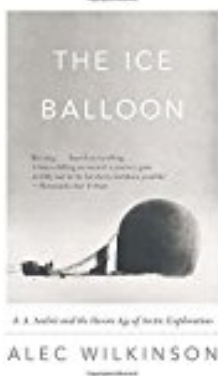


# [PDF] The Ice Balloon: S. A. Andree And The Heroic Age Of Arctic Exploration (Vintage)

**Alec Wilkinson - pdf download free book**

---



## **Books Details:**

Title: The Ice Balloon: S. A. Andree

Author: Alec Wilkinson

Released: 2013-01-08

Language:

Pages: 256

ISBN: 0307741869

ISBN13: 978-0307741868

ASIN: 0307741869

# [CLICK HERE FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

---

**pdf, mobi, epub, azw, kindle**

## **Description:**

: Before the twentieth century, more than a thousand people tried to reach the (north) pole," Alec Wilkinson writes in his entertaining new book. Most of those attempts were by ship, sled, and foot. The odds of reaching the pole alive were terrible. About three-fourths of those explorers died. But that one-in-four chance of success didn't deter Swedish explorer S.A. Andree, who in 1897 attempted the most unlikely means of reaching the North Pole: by hydrogen balloon. What makes

this more than another adventure story is Wilkinson's exploration of mankind's compulsion to reach the extreme points of the Earth, despite all the absurd and obvious risks. --Neal Thompson  
--This text refers to the edition.

**From** \*Starred Review\* A writer known for discerning portraiture (*The Happiest Man in the World*, 2007), Wilkinson here probes the personality of Swedish explorer Salomon Andrée, who, along with two companions, disappeared in an 1897 attempt to discover the North Pole by balloon. Their remains were found three decades later on an island near Spitzbergen, and from their accompanying diaries, letters, and photographs, Wilkinson narrates their flight and ensuing retreat toward civilization. That story of intrepid struggle caps Wilkinson's main interest in placing Andrée within the tradition of exploration of the Arctic and adventurers' emotional responses to the icescapes. Unlike his contemporary, Fridtjof Nansen, an expressive explorer who in his writings exulted in the sublime scenery, Andrée, an engineer, was a reticent man of facts and figures, one who "comes to life a little resentfully, as if interrupted." Contemplating Andrée's possible motivations—desire for fame and scientific achievement, intention to prove the balloon was a practical aircraft—Wilkinson concludes that the cautious Andrée became "as zealous and wild-eyed as any fanatic who went off toward the unfound places." Wilkinson proves to be an evocative stylist and a solid historian in this fine addition to the annals of polar exploration. --Gilbert Taylor --This text refers to the edition.

---

- Title: *The Ice Balloon: S. A. Andree and the Heroic Age of Arctic Exploration* (Vintage)
  - Author: Alec Wilkinson
  - Released: 2013-01-08
  - Language:
  - Pages: 256
  - ISBN: 0307741869
  - ISBN13: 978-0307741868
  - ASIN: 0307741869
-